

## **Raymond Planning Board Minutes**

**June 18, 2009**

**Approved 07/18/09**

**Place:** Raymond High School; Media Center

**Call to Order:** 7:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Jonathan Wood, Chairman; Carolyn Matthews, Vice Chairman; Jim Kent, Secretary; Bill Hoitt, Selectmen's Ex-Officio; Bill Cantwell, Gretchen Gott.

**Staff Present:** Ernest Cartier Creveling, Community Development Director; Robert Price, Planning Technician.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

*Chairman Wood announced that Doug Vogel's absence from tonight's meeting is excused, as it is the result of a family emergency.*

### **Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** Bill Cantwell made a motion to approve the minutes of June 4, 2009 as amended. Gretchen Gott seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

### **Carolyn Matthews – Report on Lamprey River Watershed Conference**

Carolyn Matthews issued a brief report to the Board on the Lamprey River Watershed Conference held June 13 in the Town of Nottingham.

### **Public Hearing – PSNH Scenic Road Hearing**

*A request has been received from Public Service of New Hampshire to trim and remove trees and brush adjacent to and beneath some of its power lines located along Long Hill Road, which is designated as a Scenic Road under the provisions of RSA 231:157.*

*Members Sitting for this Hearing:* Jonathan Wood, Carolyn Matthews, Jim Kent, Bill Hoitt, Gretchen Gott, Bill Cantwell.

Community Development Director Cartier Creveling stated he drove along Long Hill Road earlier today, and noticed several trees that were flagged. He stated it looked as though some of them were located on private property. He asked if there has been any contact with the property owners.

David Crane, an Arborist with Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH), stated it is the intent and also the policy of PSNH to contact private property owners directly, and inform them of any work being done in their neighborhoods. He acknowledged some trees that are flagged are located on private property. He added this is not unusual and that most property owners agree to have PSNH remove the trees on private property because in most cases, they are either dead or dying.

Gretchen Gott asked what happens if the Planning Board gives their approval for work to be done, but a private landowner does not want work to occur. Mr. Crane replied he does not see any trees in this area that he would push the issue with; however there is a provision under the Statute that allows PSNH to petition the Board of Selectmen to remove anything within the public right-of-way. The decision of tree removal on private property belongs to the private property owner alone. Mr. Crane stated he does not anticipate any controversy with the trees being looked at, but rather he anticipates much more controversy with the brush that will be removed, as there is a lot along the road.

Bill Cantwell stated he does not personally believe there will be an issue with removal of any of the trees that are flagged, because they are clearly not healthy or dead trees.

Mr. Cantwell noted an additional tree that may be of concern as it has grown between the power lines. He asked Mr. Crane to take a look at it.

Community Development Director Cartier Creveling stated it might make sense to continue this hearing, and have staff mail courtesy notices to all the property owners along Long Hill Road, letting them know that PSNH will be coming back before the Board on a certain date, so if they want to come to the meeting and ask questions, they can do that.

Jonathan Wood requested that Mr. Crane come to the next hearing with some pictures showing the difference in tree trimming techniques – trees that are topped, trees that are removed, etc.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment

MOTION: Bill Cantwell made a motion to continue this hearing to July 23, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at Raymond High School. Jim Kent seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

#### **Public Hearing – Clematis Subdivision**

*Continued from 05/07/2009; Application #2007-030: An application for a 16-lot subdivision has been submitted by Jones & Beach Engineers, Inc. on behalf of 12 & 20 Clematis Corporation. The applicant proposes to subdivide a lot of approximately 18.7 acres into 16 individual lots. The property is shown on Raymond Tax Map 29, Lot 58; Prescott Road. NOTE: This hearing will include a determination of Regional Impact.*

Jonathan Wood explained that the applicant has requested a continuance as they have not yet submitted the plans back to Altus for review.

MOTION: Bill Cantwell made a motion to continue this hearing to July 23, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at Raymond High School. Jim Kent seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

#### **Other Business – Alternate Counsel**

Members Sitting for this Discussion: Jonathan Wood, Jim Kent, Bill Hoitt, Gretchen Gott, Bill Cantwell.

The Planning Board entered into a discussion on whether or not to bring alternate legal counsel before the Board for interviews. The purpose would be to select a new firm to represent the Board for all matters relating to the ongoing quarry application submitted by Thibeault Sand & Gravel, LLC. Carolyn Matthews stated she must recuse herself from this discussion, as she has recused herself from all matters relating to the pending Thibeault application.

### **Work Session – Goals & Objectives**

Members Sitting for this Discussion: Jonathan Wood, Carolyn Matthews, Jim Kent, Bill Hoitt, Gretchen Gott, Bill Cantwell.

The Board next discussed their Goals and Objectives for the ensuing year. It was agreed that the Regulation/Zoning-related goals would be compiled by Community Development Director Cartier Creveling, and each member would prioritize their top 5 choices.

### **Work Session – Rules of Procedure**

Members Sitting for this Discussion: Jonathan Wood, Carolyn Matthews, Jim Kent, Bill Hoitt, Gretchen Gott, Bill Cantwell.

The Board began the process of amending their Rules of Procedure. Work will continue at the July 16 meeting, time permitting.

### **Other Business**

The Planning Board heard reports from its members serving on other Boards and Committees.

Gretchen Gott stated Southern NH Planning Commission has requested that the vacancy left by the passing of Richie Ladd be filled. She added that Raymond is also allowed to have two alternate members sit on the Southern NH Planning Commission. She requested that the Planning Board advertise, per its custom, the vacant positions.

### **Adjournment**

MOTION: Bill Hoitt made a motion to adjourn. Bill Cantwell seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Price  
Planning Technician